



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Cantor et al.

Serial No.: 09/030,571
Confirmation No.: 7542

Filing Date: February 24, 1998

For: POSITIONAL SEQUENCING BY
HYBRIDIZATION

Art Unit: 1656

Examiner: Houtteman, S.

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Paula K. Schoeneck
Paula K. Schoeneck

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment, which is responsive to the Office Action,
mailed October 4, 2000 (the "Office Action"), is filed with a Request for
Continued Prosecution Application (CPA). Please amend the application as
follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 70, 71, 80 and 89 as follows:

- DI
1. (Twice amended) A method for creating an array of probes,
comprising:
 - a) synthesizing a first set of nucleic acids each comprising a constant
sequence and a random sequence;
 - b) synthesizing a second set of nucleic acids each comprising a
sequence complementary to the constant sequence of the first
nucleic acid; and
 - c) hybridizing the first set of nucleic acids with the second set of
nucleic acids, whereby the probes in the array have a double-
stranded region and a single-stranded region, and